

REMARKS

Claims 46, 48-51, 55, 58, and 61-72 were pending as of the action of June 1, 2009.

Claims 46, 49, 51, and 72 are in independent form.

Claims 46, 49, 51, and 72 are being amended. New claim 73 is being added. Support for the amendments can be found in the claims and the specification, for example, in the specification at page 31, lines 17-21. No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration of the action is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 49, 50, 51, 58, 61, 63, and 68-71 were allowed. Claim 49 is being amended to recite “an apparatus” in place of “apparatus.” Claim 51 is being amended to add a comma. The applicant respectfully submits that claims 49 and 51, as amended, remain allowable.

Section 101 Rejections

Claims 46, 48, 55, 62, 64-67, and 72 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly not falling within one of the four statutory categories of invention. The applicant does not acquiesce to the correctness of this rejection. However, to expedite prosecution claims 46 and 72 are being amended to recite “one or more processors.” Claims 48, 55, 62, and 64-67 depend from claim 46. The applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejections to claims 46, 48, 55, 62, 64-67, and 72 be withdrawn, and that the claims be allowed.

New Claim

New claim 73, having features corresponding to those of claim 72, is being added. The applicant respectfully submits that new claim 73 is in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons as claim 72.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, the applicant submits that all the claims are in condition for allowance.

By responding in the foregoing remarks only to particular positions taken by the examiner, the applicant does not acquiesce with other positions that have not been explicitly addressed. In addition, the applicant's selecting some particular arguments for the patentability of a claim should not be understood as implying that no other reasons for the patentability of that claim exist. Finally, the applicant's decision to amend or cancel any claim should not be understood as implying that the applicant agrees with any positions taken by the examiner with respect to that claim or other claims.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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